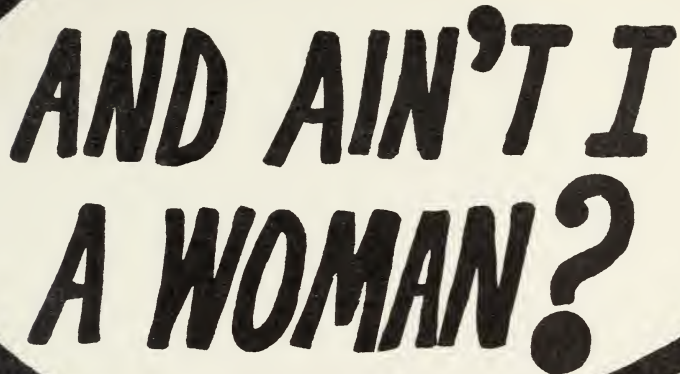


**AND AIN'T I
A WOMAN?**





AND AIN'T I A WOMAN?



**A Reading/Thinking Experience
for Young Adults**

Compiled by Carol Schene

**Boston Public Library
1975**

"That man over there says that woman needs to be helped into carriages, and lifted over ditches, and to have the best place everywhere. Nobody ever helps me into carriages, or over mud-puddles, or gives me any best place. And ain't I a woman? Look at me! Look at my arm. I have ploughed, and planted, and gathered into barns, and no man could head me! And ain't I a woman?"

**Sojourner Truth at the
Woman's Rights Convention in
Akron, Ohio in 1854**



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WOMEN'S RIGHTS - JUSTICE, NOT FAVORS

"We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men and women are created equal."
Elizabeth Stanton

MARY WOLLSTONECRAFT

Eleanor Flexner

"The woman who first effectively challenged the age-old image of her sex as lesser and subservient human beings lived a short and stormy life."

MOVERS AND SHAKERS

June Sochen

How twentieth-century American women thought, wrote, and acted to elevate the status of women.

PETTICOAT POLITICS

Doris Faber

From the Seneca Falls Declaration of 1848 "that all men and women are created equal" to the endorsement of the Anthony amendment, American women struggled for the right to vote—and won.

REMEMBER THE LADIES

Emily T. Douglas

Profiles in courage of women who, since colonial times, have sought freedom for their sex and all humankind.

THE RIGHT TO BE PEOPLE

Mildred Adams

"For more than half a century the conviction that the vote was worth fighting for would be passed from woman to woman with all the strength of a religious belief."

A SINGLE STANDARD

Janet Harris

For years anti-female philosophies have been expressed in oppressive policies and laws barring women from voting, owning property, and holding fulfilling jobs.

SUFFRAGETTES INTERNATIONAL

Trevor Lloyd

In England they chained themselves to railings and burned messages in acid on the greens of golf courses. In Australia, Scandinavia and beyond, the demand for women's rights became a world fever.

WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Olivia E. Coolidge

For seventy years determined women agitated, lectured, paraded, and were jailed before they were finally given the right to vote.

SHE FOUGHT FOR HER RIGHTS

". . . the courage and conscience to speak and act for their own freedom."
Susan B. Anthony

AFRICAN RHYTHM—AMERICAN DANCE

Terry Harnam

"I am among the first, especially in the theatre, to make it a constructive thing to be a Negro, and to give him back his own cultural roots," noted Katherine Dunham early in her career.

ALICE HAMILTON: PIONEER DOCTOR IN INDUSTRIAL MEDICINE

Madeleine P. Grant

A crusader for health reforms in industry, she was the first woman appointed to the faculty of the Harvard Medical School.

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF ELEANOR ROOSEVELT

A shy girl, Eleanor Roosevelt was a moving force during her husband's presidency; after his death she became a world leader in her own right.

BEAUTY MILLIONAIRE: THE LIFE OF HELENA RUBENSTEIN **Maxene Fabe**

"She proved that a woman can create a business on her own terms, and she amassed a fortune while doing so."

CAMERAS AND COURAGE: MARGARET BOURKE-WHITE **Iris Noble**

In the smoke and steel of industry, in the share-croppers' plight, on major fighting fronts of two wars, and in her own battle with disease, this remarkable woman was often first with photos—and courage.

FELISA RINCON DE GAUTIER: THE MAYOR OF SAN JUAN **Ruth Gruber**

Mayor for twenty-two years in a machismo society, this dynamic woman established child care centers, cleaned up her city, and tried to help the oppressed poor.

GERTRUDE STEIN: A BIOGRAPHY **Howard Greenfeld**

"At one time or another, almost every important writer or artist in the western world" visited this original and compelling American writer of "a rose is a rose is a rose."

HARRIET TUBMAN **Ann Petry**

She led over three hundred blacks to freedom on the underground railroad and became known as the Moses of her people during the Civil War.

HELEN HUNT JACKSON **Evelyn I. Banning**

Poet, essayist, army wife, mother, society woman and, at fifty-two, a dedicated crusader for the rights of the native American Indian.

IDA TARBELL **Alice Fleming**

"... the first and best of the muckrakers," Ida Tarbell was the crusading journalist whose work led to the dissolution of John D. Rockefeller's oil monopoly.

JANE ADDAMS: PIONEER FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE **Cornelia Meigs**

This American social worker and humanitarian began her war on poverty in Chicago at Hull House, fought to give women the vote, was an ardent pacifist, and in 1931 received the Nobel Peace Prize.

LILLIAN WALD: ANGEL OF HENRY STREET **Beryl Williams**

A girl of wealth and privilege crusaded for public health nursing, unions, decent housing, and peace.

LISE MEITNER, ATOMIC PIONEER **Deborah Crawford**

A shy woman helped to change the world when she became a "part of the exciting, terrible history of the making of the first atomic bomb."

THE LIVES OF PEARL S. BUCK

Irwin Block

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize for *The Good Earth* and the first American woman to win the Nobel Prize for Literature, she lived in two worlds: the East and the West.

MADAM SECRETARY, FRANCES PERKINS

Elizabeth Myers

From Hull House in Chicago to a cabinet post as Secretary of Labor she exhibited a lifelong dedication to social reform.

MARGARET SANGER: PIONEER OF BIRTH CONTROL

Lawrence Lader & Milton Meltzer

"No woman can call herself free until she can choose consciously whether she will or will not be a mother," she wrote. It was a revolutionary idea.

MARIE CURIE

Alan Ivimey

A pioneer of the Atomic Age who "found something that was to help the world to knowledge both wonderful and terrible."

MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE

Rackham Holt

"The drums of Africa still beat in my heart. They will not let me rest while there is a single Negro boy or girl without a chance to prove his worth."

PHYSICIAN TO THE WORLD: ESTHER POHL LOVEJOY

Olive W. Burt

The organizer of the American Women's Hospital Service, she and other women physicians set up orphanages, clinics, and hospitals all over the world.

SEA AND EARTH: THE LIFE OF RACHEL CARSON

Philip Sterling

She eloquently portrayed the endless drama of the sea and passionately cried out for the preservation of the earth and its creatures.

SOJOURNER TRUTH: A SELF-MADE WOMAN

Victoria Ortiz

Ex-slave, noted lecturer, and friend of Frederick Douglass, Abraham Lincoln, and Susan B. Anthony, she saw the "undeniable link between black rights and women's rights."

TO THE BARRICADES

Alix Shulman

Known in her day as the "most dangerous woman in the world," Emma Goldman struggled against any power that tried to limit the human spirit.

WINGED LEGEND: THE STORY OF AMELIA EARHART

John Burke

She challenged the assumption that women were in any way inferior to men and became a courageous pioneer in the field of aviation.

YES, WE CAN!

"I surrender not our claim to equality."

Sarah Grimké

AMERICAN INDIAN WOMEN

Marion E. Gridley

From Sacajawea to Maria Tallchief, Indian women have played and still hold prominent roles in their society.

BIG STAR FALLIN' MAMA

Hettie Jones

Ma Rainey, Bessie Smith, Mahalia Jackson, Billie Holiday and Aretha Franklin: black women who have sung and lived the Blues.

BLACK WOMEN IN WHITE AMERICA

Gerda Lerner

In their struggles against racism and sexism, black women have met defeats—and victories.

FAMOUS AMERICAN WOMEN

Hope Stoddard

Over forty women of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries exemplify the broad spectrum of women's achievements in such varied fields as journalism, philosophy, and industrial engineering.

FOUR WOMEN IN A VIOLENT TIME

Deborah Crawford

"They had a voice in America's beginnings . . . four individuals, each coming to terms with the world as she saw it."

GROWING UP FEMALE IN AMERICA

Eve Merriam

Ten American women, living at different times and in different places, document what it really meant to grow up marked *sex*, *female*.

A LONG WAY, BABY

Grace Lichtenstein

Professional women tennis players "may help to convince a few more adoring little girls that it was just as okay to want to be Billie Jean King, Superstar, as it was to be Sue Barton, Student Nurse."

A MINORITY OF MEMBERS: WOMEN IN THE U. S. CONGRESS

Hope Chamberlin

From Rebecca Felton, ardent feminist and first woman senator at 87, to Bella Abzug and Margaret Heckler, women have been a very small but often articulate minority in Congress.

MS. AFRICA

Louise Crane

In their own countries and on the international scene, modern women such as Justice Annie Jiagge, singer Miriam Makeba, and Angie Brooks, former president of the United Nations, use their talents in the service of their people.

ONCE UPON A PEDESTAL

Emily Hahn

From Anne Hutchinson to Betty Friedan, some women have become "aroused enough to clamber down from their pedestals and take part in the world's happenings."

PIONEERS AND CARETAKERS

Louis Auchincloss

Nine American women novelists from Sarah Orne Jewett and Edith Wharton to Carson McCullers and Mary McCarthy "have struck a more affirmative note than the men."

PSYCHE: THE FEMININE POETIC CONSCIOUSNESS

Barbara Segnitz

What are women poets? "The custodians of the world's best-kept secret:/ Merely the private lives of one-half of humanity."

WOMEN IN WHITE: THEIR ROLE AS DOCTORS THROUGH THE AGES

Geoffrey Mark

The role of women in the healing arts has been impressive from the ancient world to present times.

YOUNG AND FEMALE

Pat Ross

"With spirit, self-confidence and humor, eight American women tell of overcoming the limited role traditionally assigned to girls."

HERE AND NOW

"I know nothing of men's rights and women's rights but human rights;..."
Angelina Grimké

ANGELA DAVIS

Angela Davis

A scholar and political activist, she believes her personal life is secondary to "a sense of belonging to a community of humans—a community of struggle against poverty and racism."

BELLA!

Bella Abzug

"This woman's place is in the House—the House of Representatives."

BILLIE JEAN

Billie Jean King

"I've made my mark and I know what it feels like to be the best in something. I think I've gotten a pretty fair deal."

GEMINI

Nikki Giovanni

Black, a poet, and a woman writing about the black experience, she is a "revolutionary poet in a pre-revolutionary world."

GOLDA

Peggy Mann

An extraordinary life: Russian refugee, American school girl, Zionist activist, and, at seventy, Prime Minister of Israel.

INDIRA

Krishan Bhatia

In spite of always living in the public glare, the prime minister of more than five hundred and fifty million people has remained a very private person.

SUPERGIRLS

Claudia Jessup

"How with brains, energy and imagination two young women set up their own business and had fun doing it."

UNBOUGHT AND UNBOSSSED

Shirley Chisholm

From local, boss-run clubs, Shirley Chisholm fought her way up the political ladder to become "the first person in 192 years to be at once a congressman, black, and a woman."

HERE'S HOW

"Men, their rights and nothing more;
Women, their rights and nothing less."*

BORN FEMALE

Caroline Bird

"This is frankly a feminist book. It counts the social, moral and personal costs of keeping women down on the job and finds them high . . ."

EVERYTHING A WOMAN NEEDS TO KNOW TO GET PAID WHAT SHE'S WORTH

Caroline Bird

"... tactics for dealing with the subtle, omnipresent and unique obstacles women face in demonstrating their competence and in dealing with the male-oriented job world."

GIRLS ARE EQUAL TOO: THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT FOR TEENAGERS

Dale B. Carlson

"... the biggest problem is ourselves. We're the ones who have to change. We have to think of ourselves as people who need to be fulfilled as human beings."

MS.-M.D.

D.X. Fenten

"Our country desperately needs many more doctors and we are missing a valuable natural resource by not utilizing our young women in this field."

THE NEW FEMINISM

Lucy Komisar

What does it mean to be born female? Teenaged girls and boys discuss their changing views of women's traditional role in our society.

NON-TRADITIONAL CAREERS FOR WOMEN

Sarah Splaver

Law, medicine, engineering and business are fields that offer employment opportunities for women.

*Motto originally proposed for the newspaper *The Revolution*, edited and published by Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth C. Stanton.

FICTION—BUT IT COULD BE TRUE

"Would Prince Charming have loved Cinderella
Had she had big feet?"

Carol Hebard

Notes from Bellevue

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MISS JANE PITTMAN

Ernest J. Gaines

Born into slavery before the Civil War, Jane lived through a century of upheavals and participated in the civil rights struggles of the 60's.

THE BELL JAR

Sylvia Plath

A month in exciting New York as the junior editor of a magazine plunges a creative and sensitive poet into deep despair and a death wish.

BIRD ON THE WING

Winifred Madison

Fifteen-year-old Elizabeth runs away, meets Maija, a free-spirited tapestry weaver, and strong bonds of friendship develop between the two young women.

COLD RIVER

William Judson

Her father had wanted a boy, but Lizzy proved to be the equal of anyone - male or female - in her battle for survival in the wilderness.

DAUGHTER OF DISCONTENT

Hila Colman

What is a woman's role in today's society? Katherine is not sure until she spends a summer working for her father's election to Congress.

EARWAX

Carolyn Balducci

"By the time I was twelve, I had already transcended male chauvinism and had created my own reign of terror in and out of the family. They called me Mussolina"

FEMININE PLURAL

Stephanie Spinner, comp.

Ten outstanding women authors, including Carson McCullers and Doris Lessing, show that the paths from girlhood to womanhood are not always painless and carefree.

FIRST PERSON SINGULAR

Vida Demas

"It was awful to be alone. I wanted to have friends and to be like they were. I didn't want to be me if it meant being alone. But as much as I tried to be like them, it didn't work."

THE FORGE AND THE FOREST

Betty Underwood

Warned that attending the women's convention against slavery could be dangerous, seventeen-year-old Bernadette went anyway. Now she and the other women were surrounded by a mob bent on violence.

THE FRIENDS

Rosa Guy

Pride kept Phyllisia from accepting Edith's love until it was almost too late.

GRANDES DAMES OF DETECTION

Seon Manley

Nine fascinating detective stories by great women writers of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries include works by Agatha Christie, Dorothy L. Sayers and Celia Thaxter.

KICK A STONE HOME

Doris Smith

Sara could run, fight, throw, and catch better than most boys. Unfortunately, nobody thought that was what a fifteen-year-old girl should be doing.

LADIES OF HORROR

Seon Manley

Mary Shelley, E. Nesbit, Rose Macaulay and other master storytellers explore and create tales of horror and fascination.

NAOMI

Berniece Rabe

In spite of the gypsy woman's prediction that she would die before her fourteenth birthday, Naomi is determined to live a fulfilling and independent life.

NEVER JAM TODAY**Carole Bolton**

Seventeen-year-old Maddy Franklin, a suffragist, is sentenced to sixty days in the work house for picketing the White House.

NOBODY'S FAMILY IS GOING TO CHANGE**Louise Fitzhugh**

Willie is seven and wants to be a dancer. Emma is eleven and sure that a career in law is for her. Their father is convinced they are crazy—no *real* man would want to be a dancer and lady lawyers are laughable.

WHEN WOMEN RULE**Sam Moskowitz, ed.**

SF tales portray women in power from the Amazons of Greek mythology to the year 2016.

WHIRLING RAINBOWS**Susan Terris**

Being an adopted, blue-eyed Jewish Indian was really mixing Leah up until she went to camp in Wisconsin to get in touch with her real people—the Chippewa.

YOU ARE THE RAIN**R. R. Knudson**

Caught in a hurricane in the Florida Everglades, athletic and aggressive Crash feels that shy, poetic June can only be a liability.

Z FOR ZACHARIAH**Robert C. O'Brien**

Is she the last living person on earth? Anne Burden is not sure. Then a strange man in a safesuit appears and she finds herself fighting for her life.



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